

UNAPPROVED DRAFT 11/15/11	BOARD APPROVED 12/12/11	CORRECTIONS 12/13/11
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**Vergennes Union High School
Board of Directors' Meeting
Monday, November 14, 2011
6:00 PM
At the VUHS Library**

Board

K. Bristow
L. Gutowski
N. Kamman
D. Jochum
R. Kerschner
C. Cousineau
C. Wyckoff

Administration

K. Cannon
E. Webbley
P. Reynolds

Guest \Visitors

Denise Senesac
Kathy Kennett
Nancy Ambrose
Matt Deblois
Jay Stetzel

S. Sickles – Student Representative

** Video taped by Jesse Bunde, RETN.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chair Bristow.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by R. Kerschner, second by C. Cousineau, to approve the minutes from October 10, 2011. So voted and motion carried.

Public Comment: N. Ambrose asked if there was an update on the nut status for the school. Principal Reynolds stated they are still waiting to hear a decision from a doctor on a faculty member.

K. Kennett stated that the buses are hitting crisis mode. There is no new bus in the horizon. If we wait much longer, we will be replacing one at a time. Betcha has been used for busing currently. This issue needs to be discussed and long range plans made. Chair Bristow asked if buses were in the budget process. Business Manager Cannon replied there were not. Principal Webbley stated they have been working with the district with transportation issues.

Principal Reynolds stated that middle school basketball will be contracted out. R. Kerschner asked if there are any long range plans. Principal Reynolds replied there is no long range plan but discussions are being made. There are no buses in the plan for this year.

D. Jochum asked if there is any thought of contracting normal runs and using own buses for athletics and field trips. Principal Webbley stated yes.

K. Kennett invited board members to spend a day riding the buses to see how the transportation works.

Chair Bristow asked to have the numbers ran with contracting with Betcha or buying another bus.

M. Deblois proposed a French trip to Paris/Normandy possibly this April. The last French trip was 2008. N. Kamman suggested *select a year with the maximum amount to participate on the maximizing the camaraderie to who is ready to go on a trip*. Chair Bristow suggested putting it out there and see if there is enough interest. The trip would occur during April vacation. The estimated number of students to attend would be about 15. The cost would be approximately \$1800 plus incidentals. **Motion** was made by N. Kamman, seconded by C. Wyckoff, to approve M. Deblois to proceed with arrangements for the trip to Paris. R. Kerschner asked if the administration had any issues with two different international trips occurring at the same time. Principal Webbley stated they encourage the international experience. So voted and motion carried.

Board Communications: Chair Bristow shared information from the VSBA conference and stated there were good workshops. The Governor spoke in a friendlier tone. A concern she has is his plan to have the Commissioner of Education to be appointed by the Governor. The Governor stated he is not in favor of a lot of mergers, but using public money in a private sector (students taking university courses). The keynote speaker was Jamie Vollmer who wrote "Schools Cannot Do It Alone." He suggested a challenge to have everyone say a positive thing about the school and not negative.

Reports to the Board:

Student Representatives – S. Sickles reported the following:

- The past month has been quiet.
- Football team made to playoff and lost to Woodstock in the semi-final game.
- Boy's soccer lost first round of semi. Girls made it up to finals.
- Governor came and talked to committees that students belong to, challenges in Vermont and what kids' thoughts were to work on those.
- Mid-terms went well.
- National Honor Society induction list came out last week. (Principal Reynolds stated that Steven is on the National Honor Society list). Induction is on November 29.

Principals' Report - Principal Webbley reported on the following:

- Last years senior class has purchased a new sign for in the front to be installed in the old wishing well this week. It will be featuring a static sign saying "HOME OF THE COMMODORES" with a picture of a Commodore ship.
- A senior student could graduate in January and start CCV courses but cannot get financial aid because we won't graduate her in January. Principal Webbley is writing a letter to the college saying to consider her a graduate, but VSAC won't accept unless proof of diploma. He would like the Board's permission to say she is a graduate in January. R. Kerschner stated that if it is not going against any policy, it should be acceptable.
- Commissioner of Education wants to push dual enrollment (high school & college credit) with money set aside to pay half the tuition and college picks up the other half.

Principal Webbley is going to start the research on dual credits and see where to go with it.

- Currently have an 18 year old student who is considered homeless. Once declared homeless, they can attend any school they want. She is living in Burlington and attending VUHS.
- He has received complaints from students saying they feel left behind by NCLB, NECAPS, etc. They don't feel like they are getting enough for college prep. There is the need to provide more SAT prep, a class that is not offered anymore.
- As part of the NESC consortium he is a part of, he is supposed to visit four schools. Visits have been made to two schools and found they are not as far ahead as VUHS.

R. Kerschner asked about the two new big screen TVs in the Library. Principal Webbley replied that they came out of AV budget and being used for projection because of poor visibility of a screen.

Principal Reynolds reported on the following:

- One expedition is completed and closing out another soon.
- Team Phoenix expedition was at the UVM Medical School Adolescent Odyssey.
- Endeavor 2031 expedition is ending with job ideas for the year 2031. The final project will go to Guidance department for reference.
- The Governor's visit included greets and celebrates with the Vermont Teacher of the Year and Vermont Principal of Year. He talked with students about the importance of education and costs of education.
- Conferences went well with very positive turn out.
- Phoenix parents met with the whole team. Spring conferences will be student led. Parents stated they wish they had more time.
- In-service on November 4 included eight teachers presenting on PBGR's and gateways.
- KEYS after school program will be completing its fifth year. The grant was used to expand summer school program and after school program. If grant does not get approved again, money is lost for those programs. Looking into an extended day, showing that it is sustainable.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent O'Brien was not available to attend this evening.

Hannaford Career Center – C. Wyckoff reported the Hannaford Board had a policy governance day of learning and set basic policies. A first draft was written up.

Governmental Relations Network Representative – none this evening.

Action Items:

Approval of Bills and Director's Orders - **Motion** was made by L. Gutowski, seconded by R. Kerschner, to approve the bills in the amount of \$303,746.38. So voted and motion carried.

Approval of Floor Buffer Lease – Floor buffer was purchased at \$13,860 for 36 months at \$385/month. **Motion** was made by D. Jochum, seconded by R. Kerschner, to approve the lease as stated. So voted and motion carried.

Policy Matters – The ANWSU Policy Subcommittee is presenting revisions of the following policies:

- Board Member Conflict of Interest (B3)
- Professional Development (D2)
- Unlawful Employee Harassment (D12)
- Student Records (F5)
- Student Substance Abuse (F7)

Motion was made by N. Kamman, seconded by L. Gutowski to accept the revisions as written and presented. Chair Bristow suggested the Board to completely read through the policies and have any questions ready at the ANWSU Board meeting.

Personnel – The following recommendations for winter coaches was presented:

Billy Waller	Varsity Girls Basketball
Kelly Trayah	JV Girls Basketball
Peter Quinn	Varsity Boys Basketball
Wayne Jones	JV Boys Basketball
Nate Kittredge	Varsity Wrestling
Scott Bissonette	JV Wrestling
Jennifer Johnson	Varsity Cheerleading
Kaylee Cota	Middle School Cheerleading
Scott Gaines	Middle School Boys Basketball (8 th grade only)
Mark Eisenhower	Middle School Wrestling
Brad Castillo	Varsity Indoor Track
Mark Paradis	Middle School Girls Basketball (7 th & 8 th grade teams)
Rose Russett & Jill Grant	Graduation Coordinators

Motion was made by R. Kerschner, seconded by C. Cousineau, to approve the recommendations as presented. So voted and motion carried.

Other – Facilities Update – Business Manager Cannon reported that the roof warrantee is not in affect, but the architect has gotten the warrantee reinstated. Repairs have been made in the amount \$15,000. The warrantee is good for another five years. Estimates on the roof over the classroom wing and auditorium are in process. The first meeting will be looking at auditorium renovation and at kitchen equipment. Auditorium is not up to code - floor is deteriorating, lighting needs fixing and the HVAC system.

Budget – Business Manager Cannon distributed copies of the second draft of the FY 2013 budget. Changes include requests from various departments with a total increase of 3.4% (\$299,216). The Board was asked to review and bring any questions to next meeting,

keeping in mind to level fund as requested by the Department of Education. The equalized pupil and base rates will be out in December.
A reminder that the budget is absorbing costs that had been funded by grants before.

R. Kerschner asked what it will mean for the programs to level fund.
Chair Bristow stated the Board will need guidance from the administrators as what it will look like to level fund. Administrators are to bring different scenarios for the next meeting.

Additional budget meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2012 at 6 p.m., if needed. Chair Bristow asked the Board to familiarize themselves with the second draft.

Discussion Items: None this evening.

Executive Session: None this evening.

Next Meeting Dates:

November 30, 2011	6:30 p.m.	ANWSU Board Meeting	VUHS Library
December 12, 2011	6:00 p.m.	VUHS Board Meeting	VUHS Library

Adjournment: With no further business to be discussed, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glory Martin
Recording Secretary